

U.S. v. Manafort

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UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
FOR THE EASTERN DISTRICT OF VIRGINIA
ALEXANDRIA DIVISION

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:
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA, : Criminal Action No.
: 1:18-CR-83
:
versus :
: August 14, 2018
PAUL J. MANAFORT, JR., : Volume XI -
: **BENCH CONFERENCE - REDACTED**
Defendant. :
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TRANSCRIPT OF JURY TRIAL - REDACTED BENCH CONFERENCE
BEFORE THE HONORABLE T.S. ELLIS, III
UNITED STATES DISTRICT JUDGE

APPEARANCES:

FOR THE GOVERNMENT: UZO ASONYE, AUSA
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and
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EASTERN DISTRICT OF VIRGINIA

Appearances continued:

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OFFICIAL COURT REPORTER:

TONIA M. HARRIS, RPR
U.S. District Court, Ninth Floor
401 Courthouse Square
Alexandria, VA 22314

1 (Court proceedings commenced at 9:17 A.M.)

2 (Present: Judge, Law Clerks, Deputy Clerks, CSO, Court
3 Reporter, Marshals, and attorneys - Andres, Asonye, Van Grack,
4 Special Agent Ebadi, Kevin Constantine, Rob Valdini, Scott
5 Meisler, Downing, Zehnle, Nanavanti, Richard Hivey, Ketcham,
6 and Westling.)

7 (Jury not present.)

8 THE COURT: Mr. Manafort, good morning. He's
9 present in the courtroom. We're awaiting your attorneys.

10 (Defense counsel are all present.)

11 All right. Let me be clear. Good morning. I'm not
12 sure I recognize everybody. Who is immediately behind you,
13 Mr. Downing?

14 MR. DOWNING: Your Honor, this is Mr. Dick Hivey,
15 who is Mr. Manafort's long-time attorney. He's been a part of
16 this trial team and throughout the investigation and the
17 trial.

18 THE COURT: All right.

19 MR. HIVEY: Good morning, Your Honor.

20 MR. ANDRES: Sorry, Your Honor, just to be clear,
21 and also Mr. Gates' lawyer.

22 MR. DOWNING: At some point in time.

23 MR. ANDRES: I just wasn't aware -- I mean, we've
24 learned during the course of the trial that another member of
25 Mr. Manafort's team also previously represented Mr. Gates and

1 we weren't aware. We just want to make sure there's no
2 conflict issues --

3 MR. DOWNING: In a civil proceeding.

4 MR. ANDRES: Not Mr. Hivey who represented --

5 THE COURT: Well, let me make it short. Whether or
6 not there's a conflict, in the first instance, is their
7 problem, not the Court's.

8 Now, of course, you can move to have them excluded
9 on a basis of a conflict, but I don't have that before me. I
10 didn't recognize this gentlemen because he hasn't been in
11 here, to my knowledge. But then again, my eyesight and
12 ability to distinguish people at any distance is a matter of
13 some humor among my clerks, so maybe I missed it.

14 But I don't think he was here yesterday, was he?

15 MR. DOWNING: He's been here on and off throughout
16 the trial, Your Honor. He was not here yesterday.

17 THE COURT: But, I mean, he wasn't in the sealed
18 part yesterday?

19 MR. DOWNING: No, he was not.

20 THE COURT: Mr. Andres, what's your view about that?

21 MR. ANDRES: Your Honor, and, again, not to be flip,
22 but I don't think it's an issue of the Court or -- I think
23 it's everybody's issue because we don't want to go this again.

24 So if there's some conflict that we're unaware of or
25 not been a waiver previously we --

1 THE COURT: Well, he's not questioning witnesses or
2 doing -- I don't know that the conflict would -- well, would
3 infect this trial.

4 MR. ANDRES: I don't know anything about it. This
5 is the first time I've ever heard his name mentioned. And,
6 again, during the course of the trial we heard for the first
7 time that another lawyer had previously represented Mr. Gates,
8 and we were unaware of any of that.

9 And, again, I'm -- as you're well aware, I'm not --
10 I don't -- I don't practice in this court very often. But
11 typically in the Second Circuit when there are conflict
12 issues, they get raised earlier.

13 So, anyway, I'm not here to make trouble. I just
14 was unaware of that and --

15 THE COURT: I've sat with the Second Circuit. I've
16 also been counsel in cases in the Southern and Eastern
17 Districts. I have some familiarity with it. And I bristled a
18 little bit if you say they do things more thoroughly than we
19 do here. I know you didn't intend that.

20 MR. ANDRES: I didn't -- and I didn't say that.

21 THE COURT: I just want to remind you that I've been
22 there too.

23 MR. ANDRES: I didn't say that. I said there's a
24 *Curcio* -- *United States v. Curcio*, which is -- relates to the
25 conflicts and something that's dealt with on a regular basis.

1 THE COURT: All right. Mr. Andres, what do you want
2 me to do about this? Do you seek to have him excluded?

3 MR. ANDRES: Not for the purposes of today's
4 proceeding this morning, but if we could at least understand
5 if there's been a waiver by Mr. Gates at some point. We can
6 do that outside the presence -- you know, we can work that out
7 among ourselves, but I just wanted to raise it so we don't
8 have an issue down the line.

9 MR. DOWNING: And, Your Honor, to be clear,
10 Mr. Andres makes it sound like he's shocked and surprised.
11 The issue with respect --

12 THE COURT: Whether he's shocked and surprised is
13 not --

14 MR. DOWNING: I know, but I want to make something
15 clear to the Court. An issue came up before about was there a
16 potential conflict. I directly addressed it with Mr. Andres.
17 So we take this stuff seriously and we've looked closely at
18 these issues.

19 So I just want the Court to understand we have
20 previously addressed this similar issue regarding someone else
21 on the trial team. I don't want this Court to think it wasn't
22 addressed.

23 THE COURT: All right. At the moment the Government
24 does not seek his exclusion on the basis of a potential
25 conflict. The parties are going to, I'm sure, satisfy

1 themselves that there isn't.

2 And I'm sure, Mr. Andres, that if you determine that
3 there is, you can make a motion and I will give it careful
4 consideration.

5 Now, let's get to the matter at hand. I did not
6 make a decision last night as to what I had suggested. And I
7 want to make clear as to where I am at the moment. I have
8 said several times that what I know thus far does not warrant
9 declaring a mistrial, but I suggested that I might voir dire
10 the individual jurors.

11 And let me tell you why I reached that. And then I
12 told Mr. Andres, in effect, he could have overnight to look
13 and see if there was any authority that he wanted to call to
14 my attention, because Mr. Andres was not in favor of voir
15 diring the individual jurors.

16 Let me recap for a moment how I reached considering
17 that issue. I haven't made up my mind even right now.

18 On pages 19, 20, and 21 of the transcript, I was
19 asking questions of the juror who reported to Mr. Flood that I
20 should ask questions because comments have been made.

21 And on page 20, I asked that juror, juror -- I think
22 it was [REDACTED] -- she overheard a remark and I asked her who made
23 that remark. And she said, I believe it was [REDACTED]. And she
24 said, "We were alone in the room," just the two of them.

25 "After all was said and done, it was just she and I

1 at that particular point."

2 "I see. So no one else heard that particular?"

3 She said, "Not that particular remark."

4 Then I said, "Have other jurors made similar
5 remarks?"

6 She said, "Similar, but not as clear as that was
7 made to me."

8 And I said, "By 'clear,' what do you mean?"

9 This is now the juror talking about [REDACTED]. She,
10 [REDACTED], made it very clear that she didn't feel that the defense
11 really had anything to offer, upcoming in for the rest of the
12 trial.

13 Like I said, I reminded her that, well, we haven't
14 heard from -- I said, "Of course they have a lot to present.
15 This is what a trial is all about and it's our responsibility
16 to listen to everybody and then when we're in deliberations,
17 then we can decide to form our judgments and use all the
18 information given to us."

19 A nice encapsulation of her duty.

20 I said, "All right. Do I" -- oh, I said, "Do I need
21 to come down there?"

22 That's because we were in the conference room and I
23 was at one end and you-all were at the other. And
24 Mr. Westling said yes. I went down there. We had a
25 discussion, and the discussion is recorded.

1 But then I said -- on page 22, I said to her, "I'm
2 interested in whether there were other remarks of similar
3 nature at any time during the course of the case."

4 And the juror -- again, we're talking about [REDACTED] --
5 she said, "They're talking. I mean, they're just making
6 general remarks. I mean, I don't feel that anybody is taking
7 sides, per se. Someone mentioned, you know -- well, and this
8 was a couple of days ago -- of how they thought the defense
9 was "weak." And, of course, I said 'Well, you really can't
10 say things like that.'" That's the juror saying that.

11 "And, of course, I said, 'Well, you really can't say
12 things like that. I don't think that's appropriate.' So --
13 but it's small things like that."

14 And I asked her, "So there have been other
15 comments?"

16 "ANSWER: Yes."

17 "About the evidence in the case?"

18 "Yes."

19 "And over what period of time have you heard these
20 comments?"

21 And then we went through how long the case -- and
22 then finally the answer is: "I don't know. Probably" -- no,
23 let's see. "I would say probably the last four or five days."

24 And then I asked, "Have these remarks come from one
25 or more jurors?"

1 She said, "More."

2 I said, "How many more?"

3 She said, "I don't know. Probably like three total.
4 I just can't tell you who they are."

5 That's what suggested to me that I should consider
6 voir diring individual jurors, because there have been other
7 remarks made and we don't know by whom and we don't know
8 whether it has -- what the nature of the remarks are and we
9 don't know whether it has been straight remarks or something
10 that might be more severe than that.

11 So now, Mr. Andres, I gave you the night to think
12 about and to give me any cases you think I should look that
13 that suggest that on the basis of what I have here in front of
14 me I shouldn't do a further voir dire.

15 MR. ANDRES: Thank you, Your Honor. Mr. Asonye did
16 the research. He's going to address that.

17 THE COURT: All right.

18 MR. ANDRES: And thank you very much for giving us
19 the night. We very much appreciate that time.

20 THE COURT: Yes. Not a problem. Mr. Asonye.

21 MR. ASONYE: Thank you, Your Honor.

22 First, we would like to point the Court to two
23 cases, the *United States v. Wilbourn*, which is a Seventh
24 Circuit case, where jurors, three jurors, were discussing the
25 defendant 's guilt during lunch, during a brief lunch break, I

1 believe on the fifth day of the trial of an 18-day trial.

2 And there, the Court instructed the jurors -- there
3 was no individual voir dire. The Court instructed the jurors
4 not to make up their minds and discuss the case with each
5 other until they have heard all of the evidence.

6 THE COURT: Let me -- so that I understand those
7 facts. How did the matter come to the attention of the Court
8 and what information did the Court have?

9 MR. ASONYE: My understanding from the case is
10 someone affiliated with the defendant overheard three jurors
11 opining on the defendant's potential guilt during a lunch
12 break.

13 THE COURT: All right.

14 MR. ASONYE: And raised it obviously to defense
15 counsel who raised it to the Court. And those were
16 essentially the facts and the Court said these are --
17 obviously the case has not going jury yet, you cannot discuss
18 the evidence, you cannot discuss the defendant's guilt. There
19 was no individual voir dire. It was simply an instruction to
20 the entire venire --

21 THE COURT: Was it considered or requested?

22 MR. ASONYE: I'd have to go back and look, Your
23 Honor. I do have the case.

24 THE COURT: While you're at it, give me the cite.

25 MR. ASONYE: Yes, Your Honor. The cite is

1 799 F.3d 900. And we did hand up, Your Honor, a brief we
2 filed this morning, a very brief brief on this and we just
3 handed up --

4 THE COURT: Well, I appreciate that. Let me ask,
5 make sure that the -- have you seen it?

6 MR. DOWNING: I have not, Your Honor.

7 THE COURT: All right. And let me ask the deputy
8 clerk to print it out and to make copies -- oh, you're giving
9 them copies.

10 MR. ASONYE: I am, Your Honor. I have one extra
11 copy.

12 THE COURT: All right. But I need a copy.

13 MR. ASONYE: I've handed one up.

14 THE COURT: Oh, all right.

15 MR. ASONYE: Yes. Your Honor, if I could -- I could
16 just read directly from the case.

17 THE COURT: All right.

18 MR. ASONYE: This is a pin cite 907, Section C,
19 premature jury deliberations.

20 On the fifth day of 18, a witness testimony, Patrice
21 Shadd, a girlfriend of one of the defendants sat next to a
22 table of jurors at lunch. She testified that she overheard
23 those witnesses discussing the trial. According to Shadd, one
24 juror opined that two of the defendants were guilty. A second
25 juror agreed and stated that the two were guilty, but did not

1 know about the others, and a third juror expressed general
2 agreement with these statements.

3 Shadd identified for the Court the three jurors who
4 were active in this conversation. The Government opposed,
5 conducting a voir dire on the jury because it would be
6 disruptive and might cause jurors to wonder whether they were
7 being watched outside of the Court. Ultimately, the district
8 court instructed the jurors not to make up their minds or
9 discuss the case with each other until they heard all of the
10 evidence and were instructed by the Court to discuss the
11 merits of the case.

12 THE COURT: All right. So the facts are that this
13 was a person who overheard a luncheon conversation by three
14 jurors.

15 MR. ASONYE: Yes, yes, Your Honor.

16 THE COURT: And the -- what they overheard was these
17 jurors saying what again?

18 MR. ASONYE: One juror opined that two of the
19 defendants were guilty, a second juror agreed and stated that
20 two were guilty, but did not know about the others, and a
21 third juror expressed general agreement with those statements.

22 THE COURT: All right. Now, what was it that the --
23 was there a request for voir dire?

24 MR. ASONYE: It appears so because the case says the
25 Government opposed conducting a voir dire on the jury because

1 it would be disruptive and might cause jurors to wonder
2 whether they were being watched outside of the court.

3 THE COURT: All right. And -- well, what's the
4 second case?

5 MR. ASONYE: The second case is *United States v.*
6 *Diaz*, which is a First Circuit case where -- and I'm less
7 familiar with this one. But Your Honor, this case, the jurors
8 passed --

9 THE COURT: What's the citation?

10 MR. ASONYE: It is 597 F.3d 56, and that's a 2010
11 case.

12 And in this case, the jurors -- a juror passed a
13 note during the trial to the Court asking for a definition of
14 the meaning of conspiracy, which demonstrated potential
15 premature deliberations. The Court admonished the jury to
16 disregard prior deliberations and specifically stated, quote,
17 conversations between jurors concerning the case they are
18 hearing do not always amount to premature deliberations.
19 That's a quote from the case, Your Honor.

20 THE COURT: Yes, I think that case is easy on the
21 facts. But the first one you mentioned is closer in point.

22 MR. ASONYE: And we would note, Your Honor, that
23 here --

24 THE COURT: In the end, though, it's a judgment.

25 MR. ASONYE: Absolutely. And it's --

1 THE COURT: It's a judgment I have to make.

2 MR. ASONYE: And it's -- and Your Honor's discretion
3 is at its greatest, the cases we've cited in this area,
4 absolutely, Your Honor. This --

5 THE COURT: What's the danger in doing this?

6 MR. ASONYE: Well, the --

7 THE COURT: You see, that's the danger. You can't
8 say the danger is that you'll discover facts that will lead to
9 a mistrial because that's a good thing if I do discover facts
10 that warrant a mistrial. But I think -- I think you're
11 correct to point out that it -- it's intimidating to jurors
12 individually. I tried my best when I asked questions of the
13 two individual jurors not to be intimidating and to put them
14 at ease. It's not easy to do. The second juror, the one who
15 made the remark, I don't think was ever at ease.

16 MR. ASONYE: I think, Your Honor, it turns into a
17 potential fishing expedition. It sets potentially the jury
18 against each --

19 THE COURT: But who controls whether it turns into
20 a -- let me ask you this, Mr. Asonye: Suppose I voir dire a
21 juror and a juror says to me, yeah, I've heard other remarks.
22 Surely I ought to ask that juror, what have you heard? And
23 surely I should ask that juror, has that -- have you made up
24 your mind? Has that affected you in this case?

25 Shouldn't I ask those questions if the juror says,

1 yes, I've heard remarks concerning the evidence in this case
2 from my fellow jurors? You mean I'm to ignore that?

3 MR. ASONYE: Your Honor, I think the -- we're not
4 saying that you should ignore it. I think the -- even
5 Juror No. ■, the one who has raised his concern already
6 indicated there wasn't any taking of sides from the comments
7 that she didn't raise to the Court.

8 I think -- I'll give you an example, Your Honor:
9 For example, what if there was some discussion, I think there
10 was already an issue in the record, of politics coming up.
11 Somebody comes in in the jury room --

12 THE COURT: There is that remark, yes.

13 MR. ASONYE: -- and discussed Donald Trump or
14 discussed Hillary Clinton or anything else.

15 THE COURT: I'm not going to inquire as to that.

16 MR. ASONYE: It's a question of interpretation of
17 what did one juror think someone meant? What did another
18 juror -- I mean, you're going to run into this situation that
19 you ran in between Juror ■. I think these are
20 essentially irresolvable issues because people see and
21 interpret events differently.

22 What -- I think, Your Honor, the -- a compromise
23 position that is available to the Court is to do an
24 individualized voir dire, but to simply ask each juror on
25 their own, are you able -- the defense has no burden. He has

1 no responsibility to put on any evidence. Are you -- at this
2 stage, are you still able to decide this case fairly
3 regardless of any comments you may have heard internally or
4 externally.

5 That way, you get away from -- and jurors can
6 respond whether they're able to decide the case fairly in the
7 same manner that Your Honor asked during -- well, during the
8 initial voir dire.

9 The Government thinks that's much less disruptive
10 and is an appropriate balance of the concerns that were
11 raised.

12 THE COURT: All right. Mr. Downing?

13 MR. DOWNING: Well, Your Honor, the first case that
14 the Government cited had to do with some jurors outside of the
15 jury room, having lunch outside and the Court was concerned
16 about the jury thinking they were being watched out in the
17 world. We're talking about events that happened in the jury
18 room. They actually happened in there with a group of jurors,
19 and it wasn't just three people sitting at a table. We heard
20 it was a group.

21 And I think the Court's inquiry about what anybody
22 understood was said in that jury room, within the context and
23 the restrictions of what you talked about, which had to do
24 with people making comments on the evidence. Were people
25 giving their thoughts on the defense? I mean, we have a clear

1 statement by one of the jurors that the defense is "weak" and
2 we have clear statements by a juror that comments were being
3 made on the evidence.

4 So I do think that narrow inquiry --

5 THE COURT: Well, what she actually said was:

6 "They're talking. I mean, they're just making
7 general remarks. I mean, I don't feel that anybody is taking
8 sides, per se. Someone mentioned, you know -- well, this was
9 a couple of days ago, that they thought the defense was weak.
10 And, of course, I said, 'Well, you really can't say things
11 like that. I don't think that's appropriate.' So it's small
12 things like that."

13 MR. DOWNING: We would obviously not agree that
14 that's a small thing when a juror, in the middle of trial or
15 over a four- or five-day period, we have jurors making
16 comments on the weakness of the defense. I mean, I think --
17 that in particular, I think, is more disconcerting to us and
18 to Mr. Manafort's Sixth Amendment right.

19 THE COURT: Why would it be sufficient, as Mr.
20 Asonye has suggested, to ask and to confirm with the
21 individual jurors that no matter what they've heard or what's
22 been said, are they able to put that aside and decide the case
23 fairly and impartially, and also to give the defendant the
24 benefit of the presumption of innocence?

25 MR. DOWNING: I think without an inquiry as to what

1 occurred in the jury room, it's just a general prophylactic
2 statement to the jurors. I think --

3 THE COURT: Well, that's what curative instructions
4 are.

5 MR. DOWNING: Well, the question is: If the Court
6 now knows of certain events that occurred in this jury room
7 with the jurors, and I think without getting a better idea
8 from more of the jurors, not just one or two, because we had
9 two in here, one said something was said by a juror that was
10 very damning and the other jurors said I never said it.

11 So the question is in terms of what's going on in
12 that jury room, and that's what we're asking about. We're not
13 asking about something outside.

14 THE COURT: Well, that didn't go on in the jury
15 room, remember; or if it did, it -- there were no other jurors
16 present.

17 MR. DOWNING: I think that -- that's correct, no
18 other jurors were present. But these other conversations have
19 been clearly distinguished in that there was a group of jurors
20 that were in there for these questions, and it's happening in
21 the jury room where the jurors are supposed to not be
22 deliberating or giving their opinions on the evidence before
23 the evidence all comes in, the Government rests, and more
24 importantly, that the Court instructs these jurors.

25 So I think in a particular case like this, in a

1 complicated white collar case, those instructions are
2 incredibly important for the everyday jury to understand what
3 it is they're being asked to consider. The thought that over
4 a four- to five-day period, people would be giving their
5 opinions before those instructions were given in this type of
6 case seems to be of a paramount concern to Mr. Manafort's
7 Sixth Amendment rights.

8 It's not a gun and drug case. It's not that type of
9 case. It's a pretty complicated case. And that's what we're
10 really concerned about and that's why we're asking this Court
11 to make that inquiry. Thank you, Your Honor.

12 THE COURT: Mr. Asonye, I'll give you the last word.

13 MR. ASONYE: Your Honor, I would simply note that if
14 you -- if Your Honor asks every juror about any potential
15 comment that related to potentially anything related to this
16 case, we're going to be here all day. You will be calling
17 jurors back and forth. It will -- it will be an unending --

18 THE COURT: I don't really care about that. I care
19 more about your -- whether your suggestion adequately takes
20 care of this problem.

21 MR. ASONYE: It does, Your Honor, if you -- if you
22 look at the cases we've cited, if we look at *Diaz* and
23 *Wilbourn*, you have clearly jurors who have taken sides on a
24 particular issue and --

25 THE COURT: All right.

1 MR. ASONYE: And a -- not even an individualized
2 voir dire was sufficient. And here, the Government is
3 suggesting if you're -- we don't think an individual --
4 individualized voir dire is necessary, but if Your Honor
5 believes it is, the question about can you be fair is
6 sufficient, because that's the ultimate issue Your Honor wants
7 to get at. Can you put aside anything you've heard and decide
8 this evidence fairly when it's put to you. That's the
9 ultimate issue.

10 THE COURT: All right. Thank you.

11 Yes, sir, Mr. Downing.

12 MR. DOWNING: Just briefly, the question of
13 premature deliberation is really the question in front of this
14 Court. It is the question. The case law in our brief makes
15 quite clear, was there premature deliberation with that jury?
16 That's a question that this Court -- it definitely should be
17 asking questions or around that. That's the legal issue
18 that's here.

19 Has there been premature deliberation prior to all
20 the evidence coming in and prior to the jury being instructed.
21 That's the legal question and that's in our brief. I just
22 wanted to make clear, that's why we're asking for the inquiry.

23 The second question, which the Government says is
24 enough, the second question has to do with fairly and
25 impartial going forward, not whether or not there was

1 premature deliberation. And that's what we brought up to the
2 Court, that the reason for these inquiries of this jury has to
3 do with, did they engage in premature deliberation, were
4 opinions formed prior to all the evidence coming in and the
5 jury being charged. Thank you.

6 THE COURT: Mr. Asonye, I said I'd give you the last
7 word and I will.

8 MR. ASONYE: Your Honor, I think I would just be
9 repeating myself. We're fine at this point. Thank you.

10 THE COURT: All right. I'm going to recess. I'll
11 consider this. I'll look at the case you've cited, the
12 principal one, the Seventh Circuit case. The First Circuit
13 case on its facts seems pretty easy.

14 But the Seventh Circuit case I think you've raised
15 comes closer to the mark.

16 Court stands in recess.

17 (Recess.)

18 THE COURT: All right. Thank you, Mr. Asonye, for
19 the case. I've reviewed it and I've considered it. The
20 solution that you suggest is very attractive. I like it. And
21 I think it is in many ways sensible. In the end, however, I
22 think I have to go a step further.

23 What I've heard thus far does not warrant declaring
24 a mistrial. But that doesn't end the matter, because the
25 request is that I find out more. I will find out more,

1 perhaps more gently than the defendant might wish, but the
2 defendant hasn't moved to strike any jury even though it's
3 gotten fairly significant information already.

4 Am I correct, Mr. Downing?

5 MR. DOWNING: That's correct, Your Honor.

6 THE COURT: All right. So what I'm going to do is
7 have all of the jurors assembled and I'm going to tell them,
8 "I'm going to call you back one at a time to ask you a
9 question, ask you some concerns. Don't be concerned. I just
10 want to ask you a few questions. It will be easy for you to
11 answer."

12 And that will ease some of the tension, I would
13 think, and forecast for them that I would have them return one
14 at a time. If you're sitting in a jury room as a juror and
15 you have no idea what's happening and they call you out one at
16 a time, it heightens tension. I don't want to do that. So
17 I'm going to lessen it by impaneling them and then having them
18 come back one at a time. When they come back one at a time, I
19 will tell them that I instructed them at the outset that they
20 should not make up their minds until they've heard all the
21 evidence and the Court's instructions and begin their
22 deliberations, they should keep an open mind and decide the
23 case fairly and impartially based only on the evidence and the
24 Court's instructions. And I'll ask them, "Are you still able
25 to do that?"

1 Presumably they will say yes.

2 And then I'll ask them, "Have you heard comments by
3 any other jurors concerning the weight or effect of the
4 evidence of either party."

5 If they say yes, I think the defendant is entitled
6 to know what that is. Either to move to -- what I've heard
7 thus far doesn't merit a mistrial or either to seek a mistrial
8 or to ask that an individual juror be stricken.

9 Keep in mind, that they may not know who the person
10 is except -- even by number they may not know.

11 So that's what I intend to do. And I understand the
12 Government's objection, and I think it's a substantial one.
13 Far from frivolous.

14 The case you cited, Mr. Asonye, is very close. I
15 have the sense, of course, that if the judge in that case had
16 called for individual voir dire, the Third Circuit would have
17 said, "That's fine, too."

18 So essentially the Court -- the third -- I beg your
19 pardon -- the Seventh Circuit was doing what courts of appeal
20 often do, is to save a district judge and to save having it
21 tried again, which I'm sure we would all like to do, but we
22 all have a paramount duty of ensuring that the Government and
23 the defendant have a fair trial. That's what I will do.

24 All right. Mr. Flood, bring the jurors in, please.

25 (Jury present.)

1 THE COURT: All right. You may be seated.

2 Good morning, ladies and gentlemen. We'll begin as
3 always with the calling of the roll by number. You may call
4 the roll by number.

5 THE DEPUTY CLERK: Ladies and gentlemen, as I call
6 your number, please answer "present" or "here."

7 Juror 0008.

8 THE JUROR: Present.

9 THE DEPUTY CLERK: Juror 0037.

10 THE JUROR: Here.

11 THE DEPUTY CLERK: Juror 0276.

12 THE JUROR: Present.

13 THE DEPUTY CLERK: Juror 0017.

14 THE JUROR: Present.

15 THE DEPUTY CLERK: Juror 0145.

16 THE JUROR: Present.

17 THE DEPUTY CLERK: Juror 0115.

18 THE JUROR: Present.

19 THE DEPUTY CLERK: Juror 0082.

20 THE JUROR: Present.

21 THE DEPUTY CLERK: Juror 0009.

22 THE JUROR: Present.

23 THE DEPUTY CLERK: Juror 0299.

24 THE JUROR: Present.

25 THE DEPUTY CLERK: Juror 0091.

1 THE JUROR: Present.

2 THE DEPUTY CLERK: Juror 0302.

3 THE JUROR: Present.

4 THE DEPUTY CLERK: Juror 0060.

5 THE JUROR: Present.

6 THE DEPUTY CLERK: Juror 0296.

7 THE JUROR: Present.

8 THE DEPUTY CLERK: Juror 0054.

9 THE JUROR: Present.

10 THE DEPUTY CLERK: Juror 0127.

11 THE JUROR: Present.

12 THE DEPUTY CLERK: And Juror 0133.

13 THE JUROR: Present.

14 THE DEPUTY CLERK: Thank you.

15 THE COURT: All right. Good morning, ladies and
16 gentlemen. As usual, I'll ask you whether you were able to
17 adhere to the Court's instructions to refrain from discussing
18 the matter with anyone or undertaking any investigation.

19 THE JURORS: Yes, Your Honor.

20 THE COURT: Thank you. The record will reflect that
21 that was unanimous.

22 Now, this morning we're going to proceed a little
23 differently at the beginning. I want you to retire once more
24 to the jury room and I may ask one or more of you to come back
25 individually to ask you questions about whether you -- as

1 you'll recall, I indicated to you at the outset that you
2 should keep an open mind and not decide the case until you've
3 heard all the evidence and until you have heard the Court's
4 instructions. And when you begin your deliberations, that's
5 when you can begin to form an opinion about what you think
6 should happen in the case.

7 And I want to ask you questions to make sure that
8 you've been able to follow that instruction. And I've
9 assembled you here to begin with to tell you what I intend to
10 pursue so that you won't just be sitting in there and one of
11 you will be called out and then another of you and there will
12 be some tension. And don't worry about it.

13 It's -- it -- that should not happen. Relax, and
14 I'll get through this as quickly as we possibly can. And then
15 as you know, I believe the Government rested in front of the
16 jury, Mr. Andres?

17 MR. ANDRES: Yes, Your Honor.

18 THE COURT: So -- and the only thing remaining is
19 Rule 29. Have you filed yours?

20 MR. DOWNING: We have, Your Honor.

21 THE COURT: All right. That's right. I think I've
22 seen that. And I will rule on that and we will then proceed
23 accordingly. Thank you for your patience. You may follow
24 Mr. Flood out and remember to refrain from discussing the
25 matter with anyone or undertaking any investigation.

1 (Jury dismissed.)

2 THE COURT: All right. You may be seated.

3 As we commenced, I was handed a note by the deputy
4 clerk who got it from the court security officer who received
5 it from Juror [REDACTED]. You'll recall she was the juror who made
6 the initial statement to Mr. Flood. And she dates it
7 August 14, today, 2018.

8 [REDACTED]
9 [REDACTED]
10 [REDACTED]
11 [REDACTED]
12 [REDACTED]
13 [REDACTED]
14 [REDACTED]
15 [REDACTED]

16 She's also written her name below that. That's
17 under seal. That's not to be revealed. Mr. Flood, show this
18 note to counsel at the podium. Both sides can look at it.
19 And then I'm going to tell you what I think I would propose to
20 do about it. And I'll hear from you on that issue as well.

21 I should also tell you having received that note I
22 looked over at her when I opened and made my opening remarks
23 this morning to the jury. She clearly is under some stress.
24 Maybe even severe. So look at the note and then I'll tell you
25 what I have in mind.

1 (A pause in the proceedings.)

2 THE COURT: Then I want to get on with it before I
3 get more.

4 All right. And if you'd return that when you're
5 finished, Mr. Downing, to the court security officer, I will
6 direct the deputy clerk to make it a part of the record.

7 (A pause in the proceedings.)

8 THE COURT: All right. Let me say, Mr. Andres and
9 Mr. Downing, I assume the two of you will address it, or
10 Mr. Asonye, it doesn't matter, whichever you choose. It's not
11 entirely clear what she means in this note, is it?

12 MR. ANDRES: No, Your Honor.

13 THE COURT: What do you think would be appropriate
14 to do, Mr. Andres and Mr. Downing?

15 MR. DOWNING: Your Honor, can I have a moment?

16 THE COURT: Yes, you may.

17 (A pause in the proceedings.)

18 THE COURT: If you need the note back -- or you may
19 still have the note. Do you have it? If you need it, ask for
20 it and I'll have it returned to you.

21 MR. DOWNING: Thank you, Your Honor.

22 (A pause in the proceedings.)

23 MR. DOWNING: Your Honor, can I confer with the
24 Government for one second?

25 THE COURT: Yes, you may.

1 (A pause in the proceedings.)

2 MR. DOWNING: Your Honor, if I might, I think -- I
3 agree that maybe the Court should inquire a little further.
4 It does seem at some level she may have been kind of conceding
5 that the other day maybe her, you know, blanket "I never said
6 anything," maybe that's not the case.

7 The second issue, since I'm not a doctor and I don't
8 play one on TV, I don't know when she's saying that [REDACTED]
9 [REDACTED]
10 [REDACTED], that one, in particular, I think would be worthy
11 of inquiry. So I don't know the answer.

12 I mean, I -- at some level maybe this is just, okay,
13 I did say something, but I'm a little concerned or we're
14 concerned about the [REDACTED] and I don't know the answer
15 to that.

16 MR. ANDRES: Your Honor, the Government would
17 propose that, as with the other jurors, you bring in this
18 juror and ask her if she could be fair.

19 Obviously, Your Honor will ask the appropriate
20 follow-up questions, but incumbent in the questions can you be
21 fair, can you deliberate, can you continue, will be an
22 [REDACTED]. And if for some reason
23 she's not thinking appropriately or she's too stressed, one
24 would think that she would disclose that within the context of
25 the question, can you continue as a juror, can you be fair,

1 et cetera.

2 The one thing I think is -- is sort of essential,
3 and, obviously, Your Honor did this the other day, is to make
4 clear to this juror 1,000 percent that she hasn't done
5 anything wrong, that this is routine, that circumstances have
6 come to the Court's attention that required her to be
7 interviewed, but there's no allegation whatsoever that she's
8 impeding justice or that she's impeding the work of the Court
9 or the jury. We certainly don't want her to continue under
10 that -- under that impression.

11 THE COURT: Yes, well, I intended -- I said that to
12 her before and I'll say it again. You don't have a problem
13 with that, do you, Mr. Downing?

14 MR. DOWNING: I don't, Your Honor, but I would like
15 the inquiry to be about this issue. I mean, if she's --

16 THE COURT: Yes, I'll get into that.

17 MR. DOWNING: Okay.

18 THE COURT: There are very few of us who have not
19 had family experience with [REDACTED]. My mother had it.
20 Cancer treatments caused her pancreas to quit. [REDACTED]

21 [REDACTED]

22 [REDACTED]

23 [REDACTED]

24 All right. They -- we're going to bring them in one
25 at the time.

1 Now, I don't -- let me see the order -- let me see
2 the board, because I don't want the order to telegraph
3 anything. Let's bring them in the order in which they are
4 here on the board. Show that to counsel. If you have an
5 objection to that, tell me, but I think that's adequate.

6 MR. DOWNING: No objection, Your Honor.

7 (Board shown to counsel.)

8 THE COURT: Yes. All right. The first one is --

9 THE DEPUTY CLERK: Juror [REDACTED].

10 THE COURT: [REDACTED].

11 (Juror [REDACTED] present.)

12 THE COURT: Sit right down here, if you would,
13 please, sir. You're No. [REDACTED]?

14 THE JUROR: Yes.

15 THE COURT: I know your name, but we're sticking
16 with numbers here. Just a couple of very brief simple
17 questions, easy-to-answer questions, that are routine, nothing
18 to be concerned about.

19 As you'll recall, at the beginning of the case, I
20 instructed all jurors not to decide the case, to keep an open
21 mind until they heard all of the evidence in the case and the
22 Court's instructions; and once they begin deliberations,
23 that's when they can begin to form opinions.

24 Do you recall that instruction?

25 THE JUROR: Yes.

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1 THE COURT: And have you been able to adhere to that
2 instruction, that is, to refrain from making up your mind?

3 THE JUROR: I think so.

4 THE COURT: All right. And do you have an open mind
5 about this case?

6 THE JUROR: I think so.

7 THE COURT: Have you made up your mind about this
8 case at all?

9 THE JUROR: No.

10 THE COURT: Are you able to keep an open mind and
11 decide the case only after you've heard all of the evidence in
12 the case and the Court's instructions?

13 THE JUROR: I will.

14 THE COURT: And -- all right. Are you able to -- do
15 you remember I instructed you on the presumption of innocence
16 that the Constitution gives to the defendant in this and every
17 case?

18 THE JUROR: Yes.

19 THE COURT: Are you able to give the defendant the
20 effect of that presumption of innocence, until you've heard
21 all of the evidence in the case and the Court's instructions
22 and then decide the case?

23 THE JUROR: I will.

24 THE COURT: All right. Now, have you heard any
25 other jurors discuss the weight or effect of the evidence?

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1 THE JUROR: Not really.

2 THE COURT: What do you mean by "not really"?

3 THE JUROR: I mean, I -- I didn't talk to them a
4 lot, so...

5 THE COURT: You didn't talk to them a lot.

6 THE JUROR: Right. Actually --

7 THE COURT: Okay. I just asked simply whether
8 you've heard other jurors make remarks about the weight or
9 effect of any of the evidence offered in this case by either
10 the Government or the defendant?

11 THE JUROR: No.

12 THE COURT: Thank you. You may return to the jury
13 room.

14 THE JUROR: Thanks.

15 (Juror [REDACTED] not present.)

16 THE DEPUTY CLERK: Next juror, Juror [REDACTED].

17 (Juror [REDACTED] present.)

18 THE COURT: Good morning, [REDACTED].

19 THE JUROR: How are you doing?

20 THE COURT: We're using numbers, as you know. You
21 may be seated, sir.

22 I have a few questions for you. They are routine
23 and you should not be concerned.

24 Do you recall at the beginning of the case I
25 instructed all jurors that they should keep an open mind and

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1 not decide the case until all of the evidence has been -- had
2 been presented and they've heard the Court's instructions?

3 Do you recall that?

4 THE JUROR: Yes, sir.

5 THE COURT: And have you been able to adhere to that
6 instruction?

7 THE JUROR: Yes, sir.

8 THE COURT: Have you made up your mind about this
9 case?

10 THE JUROR: No, sir.

11 THE COURT: And have you heard other jurors make
12 remarks about the weight or effect of any of the evidence
13 offered?

14 THE JUROR: No, sir.

15 THE COURT: All right. And are you able to give the
16 defendant the presumption of innocence that I have instructed
17 you about? Of course, once you begin your deliberations,
18 you're to decide the case on the basis of the evidence.

19 THE JUROR: Yes, sir.

20 THE COURT: Thank you. You may return to the jury
21 room.

22 (Juror [REDACTED] not present.)

23 THE COURT: Who's next?

24 THE DEPUTY CLERK: Juror [REDACTED].

25 (Juror [REDACTED] present.)

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1 THE COURT: Come forward and have a seat right here,
2 if you would, please, sir. [REDACTED]?

3 THE JUROR: Yes, sir.

4 THE COURT: The only number I remember is my service
5 number from my Navy service. 60 years later I remember
6 647251.

7 We'll see if you remember this for very long.

8 THE JUROR: I sure will.

9 THE COURT: I just have a couple of questions for
10 you. They are routine questions and you should not be
11 concerned.

12 You'll recall at the beginning of the case I
13 instructed all jurors that they should keep an open mind about
14 this case and not decide this case until they've heard all of
15 the evidence and heard the Court's instructions and began
16 deliberations. Once you began deliberations, then you have to
17 form opinions and decide the case. But until then, I
18 instructed you to keep an open mind.

19 Have you been able to do that?

20 THE JUROR: Yes, sir.

21 THE COURT: Have you made any decisions?

22 THE JUROR: Not at all.

23 THE COURT: Have you heard any other jurors make
24 comments about the weight or effect of the evidence?

25 THE JUROR: No, sir.

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1 THE COURT: All right. And are you able to give the
2 defendant the presumption of innocence as I've instructed you
3 at the beginning of the case?

4 THE JUROR: Yes, sir.

5 THE COURT: All right. Sir, you may follow -- you
6 may return to the jury room.

7 THE JUROR: Thank you.

8 (Juror [REDACTED] not present.)

9 THE DEPUTY CLERK: Juror [REDACTED].

10 (Juror [REDACTED] present.)

11 THE COURT: Come forward, [REDACTED]. And sit here. We're
12 using numbers, as you know.

13 THE JUROR: Do I have to use the microphone?

14 THE COURT: You don't.

15 THE JUROR: Thank you.

16 THE COURT: You do as you wish. I just have a
17 couple of questions to ask. They are routine, easy-to-answer
18 questions.

19 You'll recall, sir, at the beginning of the case I
20 instructed all jurors that they should keep an open mind until
21 the end of the case. They should not make up their minds
22 until they've heard all of the evidence in the case and
23 they've heard the juries -- the Court's instructions to the
24 jury and then when the jury retires to deliberate, that's when
25 you can form opinions and discuss them and deliberate.

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1 Have you been able to keep an open mind as
2 instructed?

3 THE JUROR: Yes, sir.

4 THE COURT: Have you made any decision about the
5 case?

6 THE JUROR: No.

7 THE COURT: And have you heard other jurors discuss
8 the weight or effect of any evidence?

9 THE JUROR: No.

10 THE COURT: And are you able to give the defendant
11 the presumption of innocence as I instructed you?

12 THE JUROR: Yes.

13 THE COURT: All right, sir. Thank you. You may
14 return to the jury room. You didn't need the microphone.

15 THE JUROR: I hope not.

16 (Juror █████ not present.)

17 THE DEPUTY CLERK: Juror █████.

18 (Juror █████ present.)

19 THE COURT: █████, would you come and have a seat here
20 at the end, please?

21 I just have a couple of questions, routine
22 questions, nothing to be concerned about.

23 You'll recall that I instructed you at the beginning
24 of the case that you should keep an open mind and not decide
25 the case until all the evidence was submitted and the Court's

1 instructions were provided, and then you could deliberate and
2 reach an opinion. But until then, you were to keep an open
3 mind and not decide the case.

4 Do you recall that?

5 THE JUROR: I do recall.

6 THE COURT: And have you been able to adhere to that
7 instruction?

8 THE JUROR: I have.

9 THE COURT: Have you made up your mind about this
10 case?

11 THE JUROR: I have not.

12 THE COURT: And have you heard other jurors make
13 comments about the weight or effect of the evidence?

14 THE JUROR: I have not.

15 THE COURT: You'll recall I gave you instructions
16 that the defendant was entitled to the presumption of
17 innocence?

18 THE JUROR: I do.

19 THE COURT: Are you able to follow that instruction?

20 THE JUROR: I am.

21 THE COURT: You may follow the court security
22 officer out. Thank you.

23 THE JUROR: Yup.

24 (Juror [REDACTED] not present.)

25 THE DEPUTY CLERK: Juror [REDACTED].

1 (Juror [REDACTED] present.)

2 THE COURT: Come forward and take this last seat
3 here, sir. Thank you. You may use the microphone or not, as
4 you wish.

5 THE JUROR: Yes, sir.

6 THE COURT: I just have a few questions. They are
7 routine and you should not be concerned about it.

8 You'll recall at the beginning of the trial, I
9 instructed all jurors that they should keep an open mind and
10 not decide the case until all of the evidence was presented
11 and the Court had instructed the jury on the law applicable to
12 this case.

13 Do you recall that instruction?

14 THE JUROR: Yes, sir.

15 THE COURT: Have you been able to follow that
16 instruction?

17 THE JUROR: I have.

18 THE COURT: Adhere to it?

19 THE JUROR: Yes, sir.

20 THE COURT: Have you made up your mind about this
21 case?

22 THE JUROR: No, sir.

23 THE COURT: Have you heard other jurors make remarks
24 about the weight or effect of the evidence?

25 THE JUROR: No, sir.

1 THE COURT: I also instructed you at the outset
2 about the presumption of innocence. Do you recall that?

3 THE JUROR: Yes, sir.

4 THE COURT: Are you able to adhere to that
5 instruction and give the defendant the benefit of the
6 presumption of innocence?

7 THE JUROR: Yes.

8 THE COURT: Of course, once you begin to deliberate,
9 you're free to decide the case in any way you think the
10 evidence and the Court's instruction indicates.

11 Do you understand?

12 THE JUROR: Yes, sir.

13 THE COURT: Thank you, sir. You may return.

14 (Juror █████ not present.)

15 THE DEPUTY CLERK: Juror █████.

16 (Juror █████ present.)

17 THE COURT: Yes, ma'am. Would you come and sit in
18 this last seat here, please? How are you today?

19 THE JUROR: I'm good.

20 THE COURT: I just have a couple of routine
21 questions to ask you and easy-to-answer questions. You'll
22 recall at the beginning of the trial that I instructed all of
23 the jurors that they should not decide the case, not make up
24 their minds, and keep an open mind until all the evidence was
25 in and the Court instructed the jury on the law applicable to

1 the case.

2 Do you remember that instruction?

3 THE JUROR: Correct, yes.

4 THE COURT: And have you been able to comply with
5 that, that is, to keep an open mind?

6 THE JUROR: Yes.

7 THE COURT: Have you made any decisions about the
8 case?

9 THE JUROR: No.

10 THE COURT: Have you heard other jurors make remarks
11 about the weight or effect of the evidence, any evidence?

12 THE JUROR: No.

13 THE COURT: And are you able to give the defendant
14 the presumption of innocence as I instructed you at the
15 beginning of the trial?

16 THE JUROR: Yes.

17 THE COURT: Thank you. You may return to the jury
18 room.

19 (Juror [REDACTED] not present.)

20 THE DEPUTY CLERK: Juror [REDACTED].

21 (Juror [REDACTED] present.)

22 THE COURT: Come forward and take this seat, here,
23 please. We're using numbers. I wish we could use names, but
24 numbers are better.

25 I just have a few routine questions for you, nothing

1 that you should be concerned about. I think I've already
2 spoken to you once.

3 THE JUROR: Yes.

4 THE COURT: And I've told you that you haven't done
5 anything wrong and don't worry about that. But I do have some
6 additional questions for you.

7 You will recall at the beginning of the trial I
8 instructed all jurors that they should keep an open mind about
9 the case, not decide the case until all the evidence has been
10 presented and the Court has instructed the jury on the
11 applicable law.

12 Have you been able to adhere to that instruction?

13 THE JUROR: Yes, sir.

14 THE COURT: And I think some of the answers you gave
15 me at the beginning make it clear that you understood that.

16 THE JUROR: Yes.

17 THE COURT: Now, you've already told me about what
18 you heard other jurors say about the evidence, the weight or
19 the effect of the evidence.

20 Do you wish to add anything to that or have you said
21 everything you need to say about that?

22 THE JUROR: I think I've said everything I need to
23 say.

24 THE COURT: All right. And do you feel that you can
25 decide this case fairly and impartially based only on the

1 evidence and the Court's instructions?

2 THE JUROR: Yes, sir, I do.

3 THE COURT: And are you able to give the defendant
4 the presumption of innocence, as I instructed you at the
5 beginning?

6 THE JUROR: Absolutely.

7 THE COURT: All right. That means, of course, that
8 once you begin to deliberate you do have to decide the case.

9 THE JUROR: That is correct, I understand.

10 THE COURT: All right. Thank you. You may return
11 to the jury room.

12 THE JUROR: Thank you very much.

13 (Juror [REDACTED] not present.)

14 THE DEPUTY CLERK: Juror [REDACTED].

15 (Juror [REDACTED] present.)

16 THE COURT: Come forward, if you would, please, and
17 take this last seat in the jury box. Is it [REDACTED]?

18 THE DEPUTY CLERK: Yes.

19 THE COURT: [REDACTED], good morning. I just have a couple
20 of questions for you. Routine questions, nothing you should
21 be concerned about. As you'll recall at the beginning of the
22 trial, I instructed all jurors that they should keep an open
23 mind, not make up their minds about the case until they've
24 heard all of the evidence in the case and the Court has
25 provided the jury with instructions on the applicable law and

1 you begin your deliberations. That's when you can make up
2 your mind about things.

3 Have you been able to adhere and comply with that
4 instruction?

5 THE JUROR: Yes, Your Honor.

6 THE COURT: Have you made up your mind about this
7 case?

8 THE JUROR: Not yet.

9 THE COURT: Good answer. You'll recall that I also
10 gave you instructions on the presumption of innocence.

11 THE JUROR: Yes, sir.

12 THE COURT: Now, I omitted to ask you: Have you
13 heard any other jurors make remarks about the weight or effect
14 of the evidence that has been presented.

15 THE JUROR: No, sir.

16 THE COURT: Thank you. You may return to the jury
17 room.

18 (Juror [REDACTED] not present.)

19 THE DEPUTY CLERK: Juror [REDACTED].

20 (Juror [REDACTED] present.)

21 THE COURT: Come forward and take this last seat,
22 here, [REDACTED]. I'm using numbers instead of names. You may be
23 seated right there.

24 Just a few easy-to-answer routine questions, nothing
25 for you to be concerned about.

1 Well, let me ask you to begin with: You've given me
2 a note about your physical condition and few of us escaped
3 this vale of tears without experience on [REDACTED]. My mother
4 had [REDACTED], so I know that it can be sometimes difficult.

5 [REDACTED]
6 [REDACTED]
7 THE JUROR: Yes, sir.

8 THE COURT: Do you feel all right now?

9 THE JUROR: Yeah, I'm just stressed, so it's fine.

10 THE COURT: Yes, I understand that, but please don't
11 be stressed. This is purely routine and I have to go through
12 this and you've done nothing wrong. So relax, if you can.

13 All right. If at any time you need a recess in
14 order to -- because my mother did it, [REDACTED]

15 [REDACTED]
16 [REDACTED]
17 [REDACTED]
18 THE JUROR: Yes, that's true.

19 THE COURT: So I am familiar with it and I will --
20 if at any time during this trial, you need a recess, just
21 raise your hand. I'll give -- or give me the sports time
22 signal, I'll recall a recess and I won't inquire of you of the
23 reason for it.

24 THE JUROR: Thank you, sir.

25 THE COURT: Now, let me ask you a few questions.

1 I've already asked you some. I'll ask you some -- a couple of
2 additional ones.

3 At the beginning of the trial, I asked or
4 I instructed all jurors that they should keep an open mind
5 until the end of the case, that they should not decide the
6 case until all the evidence had been presented and the Court
7 had instructed the jury on the law applicable to this case and
8 they began their deliberations. But until they begin the
9 deliberations, they should not decide the case. They should
10 keep an open mind. Have you been able to do that.

11 THE JUROR: I try to, yes.

12 THE COURT: And do you think you've succeeded?

13 THE JUROR: I believe so.

14 THE COURT: Good.

15 Now, I've already asked you some questions about
16 whether -- let me ask you again: Have you heard other jurors
17 make any remarks about the weight or effect of any of the
18 evidence offered in this case?

19 THE JUROR: No, sir.

20 THE COURT: And you'll recall -- have you decided
21 the case?

22 THE JUROR: No, sir.

23 THE COURT: Do you still have an open mind about it?

24 THE JUROR: Yes.

25 THE COURT: And you recall that I gave you an

1 instruction at the beginning that the defendant is entitled,
2 under our Constitution, to the presumption of innocence.

3 Do you recall that?

4 THE JUROR: Yes, sir.

5 THE COURT: Are you able to give the defendant the
6 benefit of the presumption of innocence and not decide this
7 case until all the evidence is in and you've heard the Court's
8 instructions and you retire to deliberate?

9 THE JUROR: Yes, sir.

10 THE COURT: Thank you. You may return to the jury
11 room.

12 Remember, now, if you need any recess, don't you
13 hesitate to let me know.

14 THE JUROR: I have brought food in.

15 THE COURT: I beg your pardon?

16 THE JUROR: [REDACTED]

17 [REDACTED]
18 THE COURT: All right. Well, but remember what I
19 said. If you need to recess, you'll get it.

20 THE JUROR: All right. Thank you very much, sir.

21 (Juror [REDACTED] not present.)

22 THE DEPUTY CLERK: [REDACTED].

23 (Juror [REDACTED] present.)

24 THE COURT: Come forward and have this last seat
25 here, please. What number was it?

1 THE JUROR: [REDACTED].

2 THE COURT: [REDACTED]. I guess you'll remember that
3 number for awhile.

4 THE JUROR: I will.

5 THE COURT: All right. I hope you're relaxed
6 because these are -- this is routine, just a few simple
7 questions.

8 You'll recall that at the beginning of the case, I
9 instructed all jurors that they should keep an open mind about
10 the case and not decide the case until all the evidence had
11 been presented and you had received the Court's instructions
12 on the law applicable to the case, and not until then can you
13 form an opinion or decide the case and deliberations with your
14 fellow jurors.

15 Do you recall that?

16 THE JUROR: Yes, Your Honor.

17 THE COURT: Have you been able to give that
18 instruction effect, that is, to comply with it?

19 THE JUROR: Yes, Your Honor.

20 THE COURT: Have you made up your mind about the
21 case?

22 THE JUROR: No.

23 THE COURT: And are you able then to decide this
24 case fairly and partially based only on the evidence after
25 it's all been presented and the Court's instructions?

1 THE JUROR: Absolutely, Your Honor.

2 THE COURT: Have you heard any other jurors make
3 remarks about the weight or effect of any of the evidence
4 offered?

5 THE JUROR: No, Your Honor.

6 THE COURT: And you'll recall I also instructed you
7 at the outset that the Constitution provides the defendant
8 with a presumption of innocence, and are you able to give the
9 defendant the benefit of the presumption of innocence and not
10 decide the case until all the evidence is in and you've heard
11 the Court's instructions?

12 THE JUROR: Yes, Your Honor.

13 THE COURT: Thank you. You may return to the jury
14 room.

15 (Juror [REDACTED] not present.)

16 THE DEPUTY CLERK: Juror [REDACTED].

17 (Juror [REDACTED] present.)

18 THE COURT: Good morning, sir. Come up here and sit
19 in this last seat up here for me. Thank you.

20 I just have a few simple questions. It's routine,
21 nothing to worry about. You'll recall at the beginning of the
22 case, I instructed all jurors that they should keep an open
23 mind about the case until all the evidence was in and the
24 Court's instructions were provided. In other words, don't
25 decide the case until you've heard all of the evidence and

1 you've been instructed on the law applicable to the case by
2 the Court.

3 Do you remember that?

4 THE JUROR: Yes, sir.

5 THE COURT: Have you been able to follow that
6 instruction?

7 THE JUROR: Yes, sir.

8 THE COURT: Have you made up your mind about this
9 case?

10 THE JUROR: Absolutely not.

11 THE COURT: And have you heard other jurors make
12 remarks about the weight or effect of any evidence?

13 THE JUROR: No.

14 THE COURT: And you'll recall I instructed you that
15 the defendant under the Constitution is entitled to the
16 presumption of innocence. Are you able to give effect to that
17 instruction?

18 THE JUROR: Yes.

19 THE COURT: Thank you, sir. You may return to the
20 jury room.

21 (Juror [REDACTED] not present.)

22 THE DEPUTY CLERK: Juror [REDACTED].

23 (Juror [REDACTED] present.)

24 THE COURT: Please come forward and take this last
25 seat here for me, sir.

1 THE JUROR: Yes, Your Honor.

2 THE COURT: And I'll use [REDACTED], you'll remember that
3 awhile, I guess.

4 THE JUROR: Yes, I will.

5 THE COURT: All right. These are simple, routine
6 questions. Nothing to be concerned about.

7 You'll recall at the beginning of the trial, I
8 instructed all jurors that they should not decide the case,
9 but keep an open mind until all the evidence has been
10 presented and the Court instructs the jury on the law
11 applicable to the case.

12 Do you remember that instruction?

13 THE JUROR: Yes, Your Honor.

14 THE COURT: Have you been able to adhere and comply
15 with that instruction?

16 THE JUROR: Yes, Your Honor.

17 THE COURT: Have you decided the case?

18 THE JUROR: No, Your Honor.

19 THE COURT: And are you able to give the defendant
20 the presumption of innocence, as I instructed you?

21 THE JUROR: Yes, Your Honor.

22 THE COURT: Have you heard other jurors make any
23 remarks about the weight or effect of any of the evidence?

24 THE JUROR: No, Your Honor.

25 THE COURT: Thank you, sir. You may return to the

1 jury room.

2 (Juror [REDACTED] not present.)

3 THE DEPUTY CLERK: Juror [REDACTED].

4 (Juror [REDACTED] present.)

5 THE COURT: All right, [REDACTED]. I remember there was a
6 TV program many, many years ago, [REDACTED]
7 You're too young to remember that.

8 THE JUROR: I remember the reruns.

9 THE COURT: There are reruns. Well, I remember the
10 original. In fact, I was old when the original came about.

11 But in any event, these are a few routine questions,
12 nothing to be concerned about. Easy-to-answer questions.

13 You will recall that at the beginning of the trial,
14 I instructed all jurors that they should keep an open mind
15 about the case, not decide the case until all the evidence was
16 in, and you received the Court's instructions on the law
17 applicable to the case.

18 Do you remember that instruction?

19 THE JUROR: Yes.

20 THE COURT: And have you been able to follow that
21 instruction?

22 THE JUROR: Yes.

23 THE COURT: Have you made up your mind about this
24 case?

25 THE JUROR: No.

1 THE COURT: And are you able to give the defendant
2 the presumption of innocence as I instructed you at the
3 outset?

4 THE JUROR: Yes.

5 THE COURT: Have you heard any other jurors make
6 remarks about the weight or effect of the evidence?

7 THE JUROR: No.

8 THE COURT: All right. Thank you. You may
9 return -- are you able then to decide this case fairly and
10 impartially based only on the evidence and the Court's
11 instructions?

12 THE JUROR: Yes.

13 THE COURT: You may return to the jury room.

14 (Juror [REDACTED] not present.)

15 THE COURT: Next.

16 THE DEPUTY CLERK: Juror [REDACTED].

17 (Juror [REDACTED] present.)

18 THE COURT: Come forward and take this last seat
19 here, if you would. Good morning, [REDACTED].

20 THE JUROR: Good morning.

21 THE COURT: Is it [REDACTED]?

22 THE JUROR: Yes.

23 THE COURT: You'll remember that number for awhile,
24 won't you?

25 THE JUROR: Yes.

1 THE COURT: This is just a couple of very simple
2 routine questions, easy-to-answer questions. Nothing to be
3 concerned about.

4 You'll recall at the outset, I instructed all jurors
5 to refrain from making up their minds and told them to keep an
6 open mind until all the evidence was in and the Court
7 instructs the jury on the law applicable to this case.

8 Do you remember that instruction?

9 THE JUROR: Yes.

10 THE COURT: Have you been able to follow that
11 instruction?

12 THE JUROR: Yes.

13 THE COURT: And have you made up your mind about the
14 case?

15 THE JUROR: No.

16 THE COURT: Have you heard other jurors make remarks
17 about the weight or effect of the evidence?

18 THE JUROR: No.

19 THE COURT: And are you able to -- then to decide
20 this case fairly and impartially based only on the evidence
21 and the Court's instructions?

22 THE JUROR: Yes.

23 THE COURT: And you remember I also instructed you
24 at the outset about the constitutional presumption of
25 innocence that the defendant is entitled to?

1 THE JUROR: Yes.

2 THE COURT: Have you been able to follow that
3 instruction?

4 THE JUROR: Yes.

5 THE COURT: In other words, it's part of not making
6 up your mind. He's presumed innocent until and unless the
7 jury finds otherwise. They may or may not, you may or may not
8 find otherwise. But until that happens, he is presumed
9 innocent.

10 Do you understand?

11 THE JUROR: Yes, I understand.

12 THE COURT: Are you able to adhere to that?

13 THE JUROR: I understand.

14 THE COURT: All right. Thank you. You may return
15 to the jury room.

16 (Juror [REDACTED] not present.)

17 THE DEPUTY CLERK: Juror [REDACTED].

18 (Juror [REDACTED] present.)

19 THE COURT: All right. [REDACTED], if you'd take a seat
20 here at the end. I'm using numbers, as you know.

21 THE JUROR: Yes.

22 THE COURT: You might remember the number for
23 awhile; is that right?

24 THE JUROR: Yes, sir.

25 THE COURT: Good morning.

1 THE JUROR: Good morning.

2 THE COURT: I'm going to ask you just a few routine,
3 simple questions, easy-to-answer questions.

4 At the beginning of the trial, you'll recall that I
5 instructed all jurors to keep an open mind about the case, not
6 to decide the case until all the evidence had been presented
7 and the jury had been instructed by the Court on the rules of
8 law applicable to the case.

9 Do you recall that instruction?

10 THE JUROR: Yes, sir.

11 THE COURT: Have you been able to follow that
12 instruction?

13 THE JUROR: Yes, sir.

14 THE COURT: Have you made up your mind about the
15 case?

16 THE JUROR: Not yet.

17 THE COURT: And I also instructed you that the
18 defendant, under our Constitution, is entitled to the
19 presumption of innocence and that remains with him unless and
20 until the jury find otherwise.

21 THE JUROR: Yes.

22 THE COURT: Have you been able to adhere to that
23 instruction?

24 THE JUROR: Yes, sir.

25 THE COURT: Have you heard any other jurors make

1 remarks about the weight or effect of evidence presented in
2 this case?

3 THE JUROR: No, sir.

4 THE COURT: And are you able to decide this case
5 fairly and impartially based only on the evidence and the
6 Court's instructions?

7 THE JUROR: Yes, sir.

8 THE COURT: Thank you. Now, let me remember this.
9 Are you the one with a son going to school?

10 THE JUROR: Yes, sir.

11 THE COURT: And I know that his father is taking him
12 on Thursday.

13 THE JUROR: Yes, sir.

14 THE COURT: And you want to know whether you can go.
15 When is it that you need to go?

16 THE JUROR: Check-in is on Friday and Saturday, so I
17 was thinking if I can go Friday and come back Sunday, if it's
18 possible.

19 THE COURT: When is your husband going?

20 THE JUROR: He's going Thursday and coming back
21 Monday.

22 THE COURT: He's flying as well?

23 THE JUROR: Yes.

24 THE COURT: So either way, you're going to fly?

25 THE JUROR: Yes.

1 THE COURT: All right. I think we'll have an answer
2 for you --

3 THE JUROR: I mean, if it's not possible, then it's
4 still fine. Then I can visit him later on when the trial will
5 be over.

6 THE COURT: All right. I'll make a decision about
7 whether you need to be here Thursday or Friday long before
8 then.

9 THE JUROR: Okay.

10 THE COURT: Thank you. You may follow the court
11 security officer out.

12 (Juror [REDACTED] not present.)

13 THE COURT: All right. Mr. Downing, do you wish to
14 say anything on your motion for a mistrial?

15 MR. DOWNING: Your Honor, could I have five minutes
16 to confer with my co-counsel and the defendant?

17 THE COURT: All right.

18 Do you have anything you want to say?

19 MR. ANDRES: No, Your Honor. Thank you.

20 THE COURT: All right. Yes, you may have five
21 minutes. Do it here in the courtroom. I'll recess, come back
22 in. But let me forecast that when I do, I have a number -- I
23 have a motion for a mistrial and then I want to know whether
24 you wish to offer any evidence and if you don't, we're going
25 to have a -- within an hour or two, a instructions conference

1 and we're going to proceed.

2 MR. DOWNING: Understood.

3 THE COURT: But you may have evidence.

4 MR. DOWNING: Thank you.

5 THE COURT: You want to give me a forecast?

6 MR. DOWNING: I don't think we'll be putting on any
7 evidence.

8 THE COURT: All right. I don't have the package of
9 instructions ready to go. Thank you. Don't worry about it.
10 But I still harbor the hope that some day you-all will be
11 where I am and you'll see all these things and you'll say, you
12 know, I remember that.

13 See that gentlemen up there on the wall behind you?
14 I criticized him pretty vigorously for years for being
15 autocratic, for being dictatorial, mean-spirited, everything
16 else. And I can't tell you how delicious the irony is that
17 today I stand here, hearing the bar criticize me in exactly
18 the same way I used to criticize him and I look up at him.

19 It's a delicious irony.

20 But anyway, you may have your five minutes. I'll
21 try to get this package done as quickly as I can, but it's
22 going to take me about -- they're very lengthy. It's going to
23 take me at least 30, 40 minutes. Anything else?

24 MR. ANDRES: Your Honor, just obviously, it'd be
25 helpful if we have some chance to review it after we get

1 the --

2 THE COURT: Oh, absolutely, you will.

3 MR. ANDRES: Yeah, okay.

4 THE COURT: Absolutely. You're not only going to
5 have a chance to review it, but you're going to have a chance
6 to tell me if you object or you want changes. But you're
7 going to have to confer with each other about this package to
8 see if you can reach an accommodation about any objection you
9 may have. I'll be pretty receptive to that. If not, I'll
10 have to resolve it as an objection to an instruction. But I
11 don't think there's any dispute about the law governing this.
12 It's unnecessarily complicated. You know, there are a group
13 of tax allegations, a group of bank fraud allegations, and a
14 group of --

15 MR. ANDRES: FBAR.

16 THE COURT: FBAR -- I beg your pardon?

17 MR. ANDRES: FBAR.

18 THE COURT: Yes, allegations, and it needs to be
19 made as clear as possible for the jury.

20 All right. Court stands in recess --

21 MR. ANDRES: Just -- Judge, sorry, there's just one
22 other issue, which doesn't have to be resolved now.

23 But the defense also moved to take judicial notice
24 of an issue relating to the -- to some of the question --
25 remember, there was questioning from Mr. Brennan about whether

1 the bank had actually lost money, and then Mr. Westling asked
2 a question and asked Your Honor to take judicial notice. That
3 issue is a little more thorny than it may appear on its face
4 because the forfeiture allegations are part of the Washington,
5 D.C. indictment. I just wanted to preview it for Your Honor,
6 we'll be in a position to lay out the facts, but I wanted to
7 just let Your --

8 THE COURT: Well, what is it? Discuss with
9 Mr. Westling or Mr. Zehnle who has --

10 MR. DOWNING: Mr. Westling.

11 THE COURT: Mr. Zehnle?

12 MR. DOWNING: Mr. Westling.

13 MR. WESTLING: No, it's me, Your Honor.

14 THE COURT: All right. Discuss with Mr. Andres,
15 because there are probably some things I can take judicial
16 notice of and some things I can't involving that. And you
17 need to be very clear about precisely what you want me to take
18 judicial notice of and why. Discuss it with Mr. Andres, and
19 if he has an objection, then I'll focus sharply on that.

20 Of course, there are things I can't if they're going
21 to be adjudicated, but I thought what he was saying is asking
22 me to take judicial notice that certain monies had been
23 restrained or seized. That seems to me to be a matter of
24 judicial record. Now, whether they'll be permanently
25 restrained or seized, I don't know. But that can be included

1 in what I say I am taking judicial notice of.

2 See if you can work that out.

3 MR. ANDRES: Thank you, Your Honor.

4 MR. WESTLING: Your Honor, if I may on that point,
5 have you received our filing on that? It was filed last
6 night. I apologize, but we were trying to get it to you so
7 that you could look at it.

8 THE COURT: All right. I will -- that's on the
9 judicial notice?

10 MR. WESTLING: Yes, sir.

11 THE COURT: I will go look at it now.

12 MR. WESTLING: Thank you.

13 THE COURT: Court stands in recess. And we'll make
14 it 10 minutes. Tell the jury it will be another 20 minutes.

15 (Recess.)

16 (Defendant present, Jury out.)

17 THE COURT: All right. Mr. Downing.

18 MR. DOWNING: Your Honor, we would like to renew our
19 motion for a mistrial.

20 THE COURT: All right. I've read the briefs, and
21 I've heard the basis for it. Do you want to say anything
22 more, Mr. Andres?

23 MR. ANDRES: No, Your Honor.

24 THE COURT: All right. The issue of a mistrial is
25 committed to the broad discretion of the district judge,

1 sensibly so. I have paid very careful attention to what has
2 occurred, I have considered carefully what each of the jurors
3 said, particularly [REDACTED], and I've looked at and read the
4 briefs, but it is my judgment that a mistrial is not warranted
5 in this case, so I will deny the motion for a mistrial.

6 Now -- yes?

7 MR. DOWNING: Your Honor, I have another motion in
8 light of your motion to deny the -- during the testimony of

9 [REDACTED]
10 [REDACTED].

11 THE COURT: Yes.

12 MR. DOWNING: And I think if this issue was raised
13 at the beginning in jury selection, I think she would have
14 been removed for cause, and I do think at this point in time,
15 given the fact that she has [REDACTED]

16 [REDACTED]
17 [REDACTED]
18 [REDACTED]

19 [REDACTED] instead of the rest of the jurors that just came out
20 and said, "Yes, Your Honor, I understand."

21 So I think given this [REDACTED], we would be
22 concerned about her ability to deliberate given the fact that
23 [REDACTED]. Thank
24 you, Your Honor.

25 THE COURT: Any objection to striking her?

1 MR. ANDRES: Yes, Your Honor. This issue was raised
2 at the beginning of trial. That's why we had a questionnaire.
3 That's why we asked each juror if there was any reason why
4 they had an inability to serve on the jury, and she didn't
5 indicate that she did.

6 Beyond that, you've interviewed her twice now, and
7 she hasn't said that she can't serve. You asked her the exact
8 same questions you asked every other juror, and she answered
9 them exactly the same as every other juror.

10 So there's no -- nothing different about this juror,
11 any of her responses, that would require you to strike her.
12 You offered her breaks and any accommodation. She didn't
13 indicate that she needed that or anything else.

14 THE COURT: All right.

15 MR. ANDRES: So --

16 THE COURT: I would not strike her for any physical
17 condition. I'm convinced that's not a problem that would
18 prevent her. Now, you might have exercised your peremptory
19 challenge against her, but you didn't.

20 The only thing that ever concerned me about [REDACTED] --

21 MR. DOWNING: [REDACTED].

22 THE COURT: -- or [REDACTED]?

23 Which one is she, [REDACTED]?

24 MR. DOWNING: [REDACTED].

25 THE COURT: [REDACTED] is the fact that she denied saying or

1 hearing something when there was evidence that she did, but I
2 am not going to strike her, Mr. Downing, [REDACTED]
3 [REDACTED].

4 MR. DOWNING: Well, Your Honor, just on that note,
5 that -- the alternative is exactly, I think, what you just
6 said. If it's [REDACTED], then she has not been
7 candid with the Court throughout the questioning last week,
8 and I think that would be a basis to exclude her.

9 MR. ANDRES: Your Honor, the evidence this morning
10 would suggest that her -- that she was consistent because
11 the -- I don't know how many -- 14 other people all said
12 virtually the same thing. So in claiming that one juror was,
13 was credible and one wasn't is pitting the answers of [REDACTED]
14 [REDACTED] and I don't know that that's a sufficient basis --

15 THE COURT: All right. I don't need to make that
16 decision right this minute. I'll think about that. You're on
17 the short end of that one for the time being, Mr. Downing.

18 MR. DOWNING: I understand.

19 THE COURT: Certainly [REDACTED]. But I'll
20 look at the record on the rest, which, by the way, I raised,
21 not the defendant.

22 And I suppose I could have expected the Government
23 to say, "Yes, we join in striking her," but it didn't. But
24 let's go on. The Government does not want to agree, and you
25 want her stricken. Now, I've already said I'm not going to

1 strike her because of what she said in her note about her

2 [REDACTED], but I will look at the other part carefully.

3 Now, you'll get a package of instructions in the --
4 probably in less than an hour or an hour, and you'll have an
5 opportunity to review them. Most of them are the instructions
6 that you-all submitted. There's a little confusion in them.
7 I'm not going to go into it now because this should be in open
8 court, where everyone can hear it, but I have denied the
9 motion for mistrial. I've taken under advisement the
10 now-submitted request that [REDACTED] be stricken. I'll consider
11 that. We don't need to have any more proceedings under seal
12 for that.

13 So now we need to go ahead and I need to resolve the
14 Rule 29 motion, then have an instructions conference, then we
15 will have the closing arguments, and it seems to me that that
16 may not happen until tomorrow, but we'll see.

17 So the first thing is we'll recess -- oh, the
18 judicial notice thing. Did you-all resolve that?

19 MR. WESTLING: We have not been able to resolve
20 that, Your Honor. We did discuss it.

21 THE COURT: Well, what you've submitted, does it
22 tell me precisely what it is that --

23 MR. WESTLING: Yeah, I think the paragraph at the
24 very end that is indented, Your Honor, is what we would ask to
25 have notice of.

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1 THE COURT: Well, I'll do this in open court.

2 MR. ANDRES: Your Honor, I think we're going to try
3 to file something very brief. It's complicated. It has to do
4 with a different case, and I don't think that the -- I don't
5 think that the judicial notice is warranted. I don't think
6 it's accurate factually. So we can try to put together a
7 two-page brief just so we can set out the facts, because
8 again --

9 THE COURT: Well, tell Mr. Westling so that he --
10 you-all should have been able to resolve this.

11 MR. WESTLING: I think we have, unfortunately, Your
12 Honor, a difference of opinion about what's appropriate under
13 the circumstances, and so that's where we are.

14 THE COURT: All right. You'd better file it
15 quickly. I need to move this along.

16 MR. ANDRES: We will, Your Honor. Thank you.

17 THE COURT: All right. So I'll recess now. There's
18 nothing else we need to do under seal. Everything else we
19 need to do should be in open court.

20 MR. ANDRES: Agreed, Your Honor. Thank you.

21 MR. DOWNING: Yes.

22 THE COURT: All right. I'm going to recess. We'll
23 recess until -- let's see. What are we going to do after the
24 recess? We'll do the Rule 29, maybe judicial notice. What
25 else?

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1 MR. ANDRES: I think that's it.

2 THE COURT: Oh, the jury will be advised that it
3 does not wish -- oh, I know what I need to do under seal. I
4 need to voir dire Mr. Manafort.

5 MR. DOWNING: Yes, Your Honor.

6 THE COURT: All right. Come to the podium,
7 Mr. Manafort.

8 MR. ANDRES: I'm sorry, Your Honor, that's not going
9 to be in open court?

10 MR. DOWNING: No.

11 THE COURT: No. I don't typically do it, but I --
12 why do you think it should be?

13 MR. ANDRES: I just -- I just wasn't aware of the
14 basis for sealing that. That's all I'm asking. I'm not --

15 THE COURT: I typically seal it.

16 MR. ANDRES: Okay.

17 THE COURT: Or do it out of the presence of the
18 jury.

19 MR. ANDRES: Well, obviously, there's a distinction
20 there. I understand the point about --

21 THE COURT: It isn't going to be sealed, but -- all
22 right. I'll do it when everyone's in the courtroom, but it's
23 going to be out of the presence of the jury.

24 MR. ANDRES: Of course, Your Honor. Of course.

25 THE COURT: All right. We'll do it that way.

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1 All right. I'll recess. You may open the
2 courtroom. We'll proceed with the Rule 29. You can then tell
3 the jury that you don't intend to offer evidence. I'll then
4 voir dire -- out of the presence of the jury, I'll voir dire
5 Mr. Manafort, and then by that time, you'll have your package
6 of instructions. We'll have lunch and proceed to an
7 instructions conference after lunch.

8 And I'll probably have the jury after lunch go home.

9 MR. DOWNING: 12:30?

10 THE COURT: Right now?

11 MR. DOWNING: No. Adjourn until what time?

12 THE COURT: No, we're only going to adjourn to open
13 the courtroom, and then I'm going to decide -- I may have
14 15 minutes because I want to look at the --

15 MR. DOWNING: Okay. I'm sorry, Your Honor, I
16 thought you were going to take a longer period to look at --

17 THE COURT: Do you need a longer time?

18 MR. DOWNING: No, no. I thought the Court did for
19 the Rule 29 and the judicial notice.

20 THE COURT: No, I've been thinking about this for a
21 while.

22 MR. DOWNING: Okay. Got it. Thank you.

23 THE COURT: All right. So we won't go to voir dire
24 Mr. Manafort until after -- out of the presence of the jury.

25 MR. DOWNING: Okay.

1 THE COURT: And I'll do it in public.

2 MR. ANDRES: And if we could just ask until the end
3 of the day to resolve the judicial notice? We haven't had a
4 chance to respond, and I do think that's necessary. So we
5 could do the Rule 29. If we could just put off the Title 31
6 judicial notice?

7 THE COURT: All right. When do you anticipate you
8 can give me that?

9 MR. ANDRES: Certainly before the end of the day.

10 THE COURT: No, before that.

11 MR. ANDRES: Okay. How about -- I don't want to
12 argue.

13 THE COURT: Well, you've obviously been thinking
14 about it. Give it to me as soon as you can.

15 MR. ANDRES: Okay.

16 THE COURT: But I want it by mid-afternoon at the
17 latest.

18 MR. ANDRES: Understood. Thank you, Your Honor.

19 THE COURT: Court stands in recess.

20 (Recess at 11:26 a.m.)

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1 CERTIFICATE OF THE REPORTERS

2 We certify that the foregoing is a true and correct
3 transcript of the record of proceedings on August 14, 2018,
4 and incorporating redactions of personal identifiers.

5 Redacted characters appear as a [REDACTED] "blackout block" in
6 the transcript.

7
8
9 /s/

10 Tonia M. Harris & Anneliese J. Thomson
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